

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-42 (canceled)

Claim 43 (currently amended): A method of altering an amount of an unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant comprising decreasing a fatty acid desaturase activity in the seed by transforming the plant with a nucleic acid comprising a sequence which encodes a mutant form of a fatty acid desaturase in which one or more histidine residues have been mutated as compared to a wild type form of the fatty acid desaturase.

Claims 44 and 45 (canceled)

Claim 46 (previously presented): The method of claim 43, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A method of altering an amount of an unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant comprising:

- (a) transforming a plant cell with a nucleic acid comprising a sequence which encodes a ~~dominant negative~~ mutant form of a fatty acid desaturase in which one or more histidine residues have been mutated as compared to a wild type form of the fatty acid desaturase;
- (b) growing a seed-bearing plant from the transformed plant cell of step (a); and
- (c) identifying a seed from the plant of step (b) with the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

Claims 48 and 49 (canceled)

Claim 50 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.